serve Bank of India on the subject from time to time.

[*English*]

STA Permits to Unemployed Graduates

713. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Transport Authority of Delhi Administration has called for applications to grant permits to run buses on the DTC routes;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to give preference to the unemployed graduates who may have also applied under the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The State Transport Authority, Delhi have invited applications to grant State Carriage Permits on routes operated by DTC as well as new routes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Grants to Madhya Pradesh form Central Road Fund

714. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not providing the amount of Rs. 15.31 crores out of Central Road Fund to Madhya Pradesh for the year 1989-90 as per the resolution passed by Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 13.5.1988; and

(b) the time by which the said amount will be provided to Madhya Pradesh for the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Actual augmentation of Central Road Fund in accordance with the Resolution adopted by Parliament on 13.5.1988, against which the accruals of Rs. 15.31 crores in respect of Madhya Pradesh for the year 89-90 were anticipated, has not taken place as yet. As such, new schemes in Madhya Pradesh for this amount could not be approved so far.

(b) It is too early to indicate the time for approval of schemes against augmented Central Road Fund from 1989 onwards, as well as release of funds against the same, since a decision about augmentation of the Fund is yet to be taken.

[*English*]

Enquiry into Import of Newsprint by STC

715. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to institute an enquiry into the import of newsprint by State Trading Corporation during the last year resulting into the seizure of on Indian Vessel belonging to Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of loss suffered; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fix the responsibility in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) STC had imported some quality of newsprint from M/s. Meteor Paper Ltd., London which was delivered through SCI. Due to a dispute in regard to declaration of the origin of the material, manufacturer's certificate etc., STC did not release the payment to the supplier. On filing of a claim by the supplier against SCI for the value of cargo, one vessel of SCI was arrested at Antwerp (Belgium) on 12.2.92. The arrested vessel has since been got released by SCI on an indemnity bond.

(c) and (d). The matter is begin enquired into.

[*Translation*]

Import of Food Items

716. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the various food items proposed to be imported during 1992-93; and

(b) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and on receipt of the same shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Smuggling of Foodgrains from Tripura to Bangladesh

717. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the smuggling of foodgrains and other essential commodities from Tripura to Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Available reports and seizures made indicate that sugar and medicines are sensitive to smuggling from Tripura to Bangladesh. The number of cases booked and the value of such goods seized during the last three years are given below:

Year	*No. of cases*	*Value (Rs. in lakhs)*
1989	780	6.05
1990	795	10.24
1991	841	11.92

(b) Special preventive checks and drives are organised and the anti-smuggling machinery has also been geared up. Close coordination is maintained with all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.